

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 KUALA 02852 090808Z
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ONY-00 /010 W
-----090813Z 091966 /12

R 090112Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7149
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY MANILA
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUALA LUMPUR 2852

STADIS//////////

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E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EGEN, ECON, SHUM, PFOR, MY
SUBJECT: OFFICE OF ECONOMIC POLICY WEEKLY STATUS REPORT APRIL 26, 1977

MALAYSIAN FINANCE MINISTER'S HUMAN RIGHTS COMMENTS AT ADB
MEETING

REF: (A) STATE 094237 (B) STATE 101487 (NOTAL)

1. ACCORDING TO PARA TWO REF A, MALAYSIAN FINANCE MINISTER/ADB BOARD
CHAIRMAN RAZALEIGH "ASSERTED LDC CONCERNS FOR HUMAN RIGHTS..." DURING
APRIL 21-23 ADB ANNUAL MEETING IN MANILA. LOCAL SOURCES, HOWEVER,
INTERPRET RAZALEIGH'S STATEMENT QUITE DIFFERENTLY, I.E. THAT HE
ARGUED AGAINST LINKING ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE WITH HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS

ON THE GROUNDS THAT LDC'S ARE CONCERNED ABOUT ECONOMIC HUMAN RIGHTS
RATHER THAN A "VERY NARROW" DEFINITION OF HUMAN RIGHTS. IN THIS
SENCE HE ESPOUSES THE LINE THAT FULL BELLIES, PEACE AND STABILITY TAKE
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PRECEDENCE OVER OTHER FUNDAMENTAL HUMAN RIGHTS. PARAPHRASED
ACCOUNTS OF PRESIDENT MARCOS' REMARKS APPEARING IN "NEW STRAITS TIMES"

(NST) APRIL 23 INDICATE HE ADOPTED LINE SIMILAR TO RAZALEIGH'S AND
BOTH "WERE APPARENTLY RESPONDING TO CALLS IN THE UNITED STATES
AND ELSEWHERE FOR AID TO BE LINKED TO HUMAN RIGHTS IN RECIPIENT

COUNTRIES."

2. COMMENT. RAZALEIGH HIMSELF IS AN ELITIST WHO IN THE PAST HAS EXPLOITED MALAY NATIONALISM AND ANTI-FOREIGNISM TO EXPAND HIS POWER AND INFLUENCE WITHIN THE RULING UNITED MALAYS NATIONAL ORGANIZATION. THE LINE HE TOOK IN MANILA, HOWEVER, PARALLELS THE THINKING OF MOST MEMBERS OF THE POWER STRUCTURE HERE, DESPITE THE "WESTMINSTER" PATTERN ON WHICH THE GOVERNMENT IS BASED.

3. REF B RECEIVED AFTER FOREGOING DRAFTED AND WE ARE PLEASED DEPY. AST. SECY. OAKLEY WAS ABLE TO PROVIDE RAZALEIGH WITH CLARIFICATION OF ELEMENTS OF OUR POLICY HE FOUND CONFUSING. WE ARE AIRPOUCHING COPIES

OF NST STORES TO ADDRESSEES AND A COPY OF FULL TEXT OF RAZALEIGH'S REMARKS TO EA/IMS. WE WILL MAKE A COPY OF SECRETARY'S LAW DAY SPEECH AVAILABLE TO RAZALEIGH AS REQUESTED.
UNDERHILL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HUMAN RIGHTS, ECONOMIC REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 09-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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SAS ID: 2598489
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